

cast votes on the extension of the middle class tax cuts, as well as the censure of Representative CHARLES RANGEL. However, I strongly support extending tax cuts to the middle class, and would have voted favorably. On the matter of Representative RANGEL, I would have voted "yes" on the reprimand but "no" on the censure.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
CAPTAIN CARL KUWITZKY,
PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTHWEST
AIRLINES PILOTS' ASSOCIATION
(SWAPA)

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of Captain Carl Kuwitzky, President of the Southwest Airlines Pilots' Association (SWAPA). Captain Kuwitzky will retire as SWAPA President on December 31, 2010 after serving two terms leading the organization which represents Southwest Airlines' nearly 6,000 pilots.

An Oklahoma native, Captain Kuwitzky has been a pilot at Southwest Airlines since July, 1983. Captain Kuwitzky's distinguished service with SWAPA also includes time as the association's vice president from 2006–2008, as a member of the Board of Directors representing the Phoenix and Houston Hobby Airports, and as Chairman of Southwest Airlines' Scheduling and Air Safety Committees. During his distinguished career at Southwest he also served as a member of the negotiating and merger committees during the airline's acquisition of Muse Air in 1986.

Madam Speaker, Southwest Airlines has grown to become a leader of the U.S. and global airline industry and has provided significant benefit to my home state of Florida. Captain Carl Kuwitzky's played an integral role in this growth and the benefits it has provided to Southwest Airlines, the traveling public, the airline industry and the millions of Americans who take to the skies each year.

My colleagues, please join me in recognizing the service of Captain Kuwitzky, for we are all better and safer today because of his outstanding leadership.

HONORING MASTER GUNNERY
SERGEANT SCOT T. MOREFIELD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding Marine, Master Gunnery Sergeant Scot T. Morefield.

Master Gunnery Sergeant Morefield enlisted in the Marine Corps on November 9, 1978 at age 17. On June 30, 2010, he retired after 30 years of honorable service to the Marine Corps, and to our country.

His military career began after graduating from recruit training and infantry training school he attended aviation structures school, finishing as the academic honor graduate.

MGySgt. Morefield was then assigned to an A-4 Skyhawk squadron where he served from 1980 to 1983. During that time he made numerous deployments to Asia. In 1983 he received an honorable discharge.

After briefly working for Lentini Aviation in Troy, Michigan, and Lockheed Martin in Marietta, GA, he started his own construction company.

In 1987, while still running his construction business, MGySgt. Morefield re-enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves as a Combat Engineer. He graduated the Combat Engineer School at Camp Lejeune in 1990 as the academic honor graduate.

In 1991, he received orders to return to Michigan where he continued his service assignment as a Marine Corps recruiter and a Staff Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of two Lansing, Michigan substations. Notably, he served at various times as both the Recruiter Instructor and the Operations Chief for the Lansing station before his retirement this June.

Master Gunnery Sergeant Scot Morefield's personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Gold Star.

I am proud to rise today to celebrate this Marine's service and commitment to our country. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking MGySgt. Morefield for his devotion to our mutual cause of national defense and wish him the best in his retirement.

ADDRESSING THE GLOBAL
THREAT OF AL-QAEDA

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to state plainly and clearly my belief that al-Qaeda and its affiliates continue to pose a serious threat to the United States.

During a candidate forum on October 21, 2010, I was asked a question regarding U.S. policy in Afghanistan and Iraq. During my response, I stated that the United States went to war in Afghanistan—an action that I supported—to remove the Taliban from power and eliminate al-Qaeda. I also noted that top U.S. intelligence officials have stated publicly that al-Qaeda no longer poses a threat to the United States from within Afghanistan.

For example, on June 27, 2010, CIA Director Leon Panetta stated that fewer than 50 to 100 al-Qaeda operatives remain in Afghanistan, saying "there's no question that the main location of Al Qaeda is in the tribal areas of Pakistan." According to then-National Security Advisor Gen. James L. Jones on October 4, 2009, al-Qaeda has no bases inside Afghanistan and "no ability to launch attacks on either us or our allies." Unfortunately, my political opponents rejected these official assessments from America's top national security experts and chose to distort my position by taking my comments out of context. Playing politics with American national security is a reckless distraction.

The threat from al-Qaeda now emanates from within countries such as Pakistan and Yemen, and even from would-be terrorists

within the U.S. who are inspired to violence by al-Qaeda. However, due to the courage and effectiveness of America's military men and women and America's NATO partners, al-Qaeda's ability to attack U.S. citizens from inside Afghanistan has been greatly diminished, if not eliminated. For this reason, I support an end to full-scale combat operations and a shift to a long-term counterterrorism mission that will prevent al-Qaeda from re-establishing safe havens from which to attack the United States.

Madam Speaker, there is no doubt that al-Qaeda continues to pose a significant threat to the United States and our allies. Its operatives are as determined as ever to promote their brand of extremism through fear, violence, and hate. The United States must remain vigilant and resolute in the face of this serious threat.

A TRIBUTE TO MS. SHIRLEY M.
OLIVER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Shirley M. Oliver.

For decades, Ms. Oliver dedicated herself to the youth of the Brownsville-Ocean Hill community of Brooklyn, New York. She was a day care professional at the Love in Action Day Care Center, an auditory tester in the public school system and a Credentialed Prevention and Intervention Specialist with the New York City Board of Education. Her work demonstrates a clear commitment to children at all stages of development.

A proud product of the New York City Public School System, Ms. Oliver has always had a firm belief in education. Tasked with raising a young family and full-time employment, Ms. Oliver made time to pursue her educational goals; she attained a Bachelor of Arts from the College of New Rochelle and a Post-Graduate degree in Educational Psychology from Fordham University. Adding to her list of accomplishments, Ms. Oliver is a licensed Mental Health Counselor in the Brooklyn community and is a New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services Credentialed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Trainee with credentialing in gambling.

Ms. Oliver was born, raised and still resides in the Brownsville community of Brooklyn, New York. She is the second child of Charles and Pat Green. Ms. Oliver grew up in a nurturing environment; her parents stressed the importance of education, spirituality and public service. Ms. Oliver is the proud mother of two children: Mr. Shon Oliver and Mrs. ShakiraKee. She is also the proud grandmother of four grandchildren: Kumani, Saabir, Sumaiyah, and KianaraKee.

Through her membership in service organizations, Ms. Oliver makes a conscious effort to advocate on the behalf of others. Her organizational affiliations are extensive; she is a member of the Women's Caucus for Congressman Ed TOWNS, the N.A.A.C.P., the Community Board, the Brookside Hospital Advisory Board and she is a Delegate for AFSCME at the annual National Convention for the AFL-CIO. In addition to all this, Ms. Oliver is the shop steward for her Local Chapter 372 and a member of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists.